

Proposed ESIP Membership Tiers

Rob Raskin

Chair, ESIP Constitution and Bylaws
Committee

Jan 5, 2012

What an Improved Membership Structure Can Support

- Expectations of Being a Member
- New Member Types
 - Individuals (including students and retirees)
 - Data Users
 - Multi-function/comprehensive umbrella organizations/consortiums
- Easy Member Termination
 - Some ESIPs become defunct after their funding ends. We have no method to remove them from membership list

Solution Strategies

- Classify each ESIP by both a **Type** and a **Membership Tier**
 - **Type** represents the member's data activities
 - **Membership Tier** represents their level of ESIP service/participation (e.g., funding, voting)
- Redefine **Type** 5 as data users and accept interested individuals
- Redefine **Type** 4 as any multi-function, umbrella entity, not limited to funders
 - Funders identified through their Membership Tier
- Set ESIP expiration date for inactive ESIPs, but provide renewal process.

Proposed Membership Tiers

- **Sustainer- high-level**
- **Sustainer- low-level**
- **Full** (voting)
- **Associate** (non-voting)
- Notes
 - Executive Committee sets requirements to attain **Full** or **Sustainer** status, e.g. **Full** status requires paying for 2 Meeting registrations in the past year
 - Data Users (Type 5) restricted **to Associate** status
 - **Associate** memberships expire after 5 years
 - **Associate** members can participate fully in ESIP activities, with the exception of Assembly voting.

Impacts on Type Representation

- Type 4 and 5 gain full representation on Administrative Committees
 - Type 4 reps provide Administrative perspective
 - Type 5 reps provide Data User perspective
 - Several existing and pending ESIPs may choose to switch to Type 4 status (USGS, NCAR, etc.)
- Although Associate members cannot vote in the Assembly, they retain representation via their **Type** Representatives in Administrative Committees